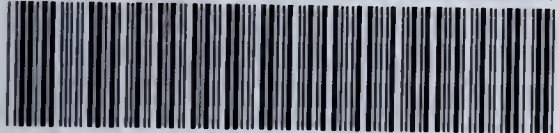


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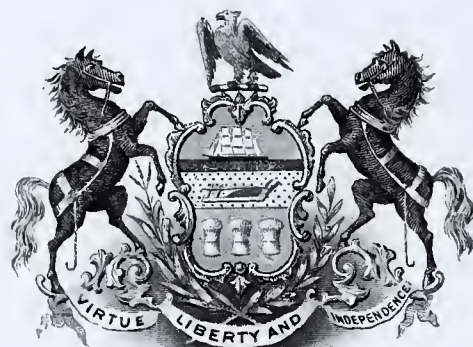
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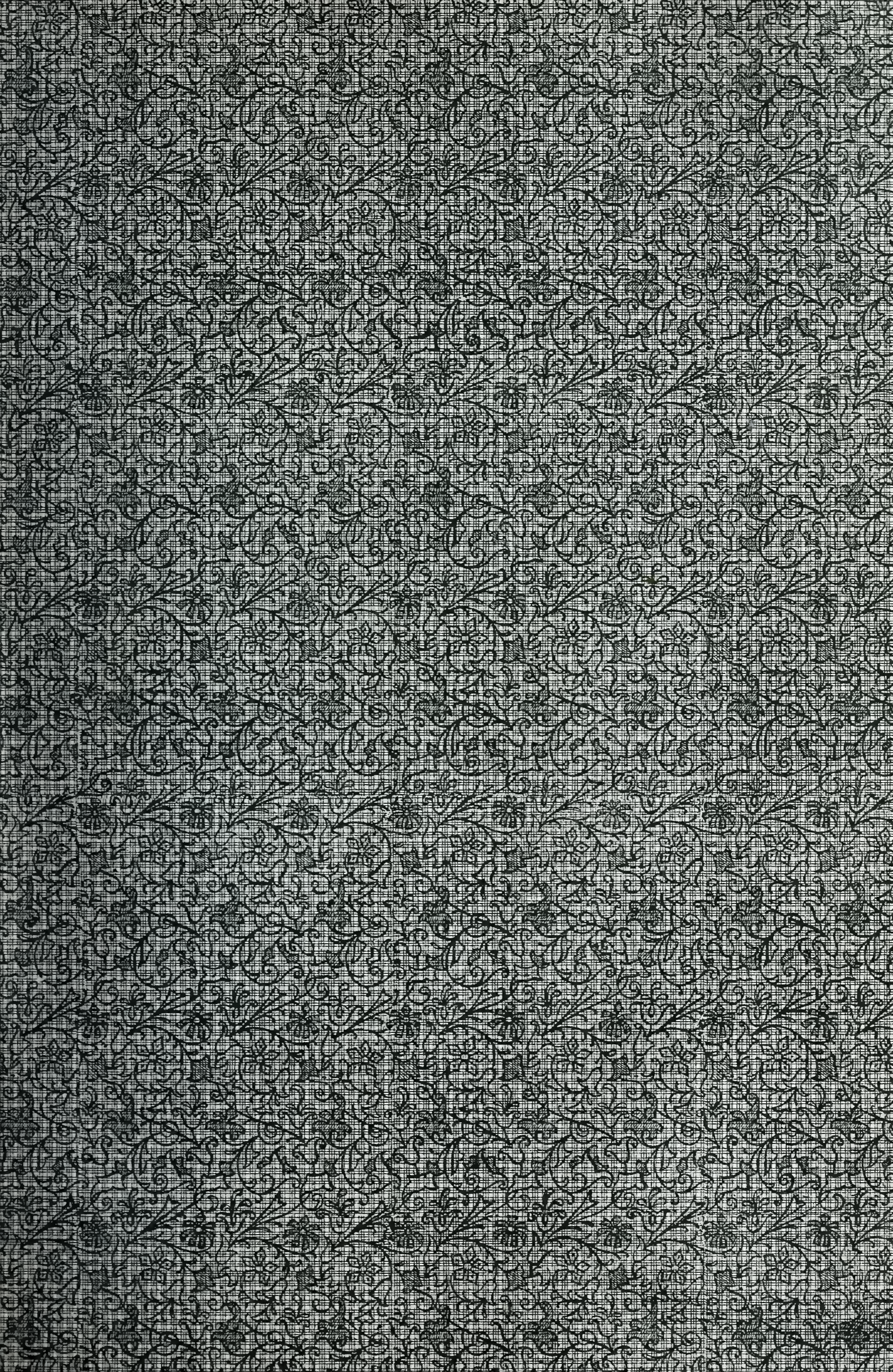
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THE UNION LEAGUE HOUSE, MAY 11, 1905

F O R T I E T H
A N N I V E R S A R Y
of the OPENING *of the*
P R E S E N T U N I O N
L E A G U E H O U S E

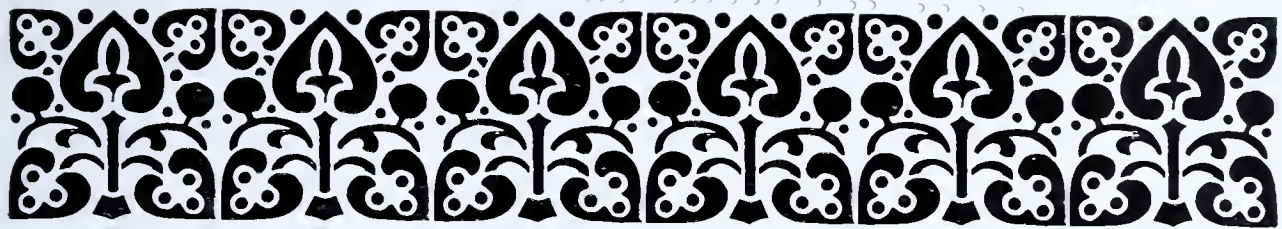


Amor patriæ ducit

MAY ELEVENTH, NINETEEN
HUNDRED AND FIVE



PRESS OF
J. B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY
PHILADELPHIA



Foreword



THE UNION LEAGUE of Philadelphia was founded November 22, 1862, organized December 27, 1862, and on January 22, 1863, occupied its first home at 1118 Chestnut Street. The lease of that property expired August 18, 1864, and as it was impossible to obtain a renewal, temporary quarters were taken at 1216 Chestnut Street, until the present Union League House, then in the course of construction at Broad and Sansom Streets, should be ready for occupancy. The ground was broken March 1, 1864, and the new building occupied on May 11, 1865. No formal ceremonies were held, for the reason stated in the following resolution, adopted by the Board of Directors at that time:

“On motion of Mr. McMichael, it was resolved that the Secretary be requested to note upon the minutes of the Board that the New House was this day opened for the reception and accommodation of the members of The Union League, and that the Directors deemed it expedient to waive all formal proceedings on the occasion, as a testimonial of respect to the memory of Abraham Lincoln, the late President of the United States.”

As the present Union League House was opened on Thursday, May 11, 1865, and as the Fortieth Anniversary occurs on Thursday, May 11, 1905, the Board of Directors, at their stated meeting in April, decided to celebrate appropriately this event, and to issue a souvenir of the occasion, containing a contemporary description of The Union League and its new home, together with selections from the early annual reports and other publications, expressing the sentiments which inspired its original members, and which we should

FOREWORD

strive to emulate, in order that the present and future members may preserve the priceless heritage handed down to them.

Remembering that no organization can live on its past record alone, no matter how great and good that record may be, and as “eternal vigilance is the price of liberty,” so unceasing loyalty and devotion to the cardinal principles of The Union League and respect for its traditions are necessary to keep alive the spirit of our motto,—

Amor patriæ ducit

EDWARD T. STOTESBURY

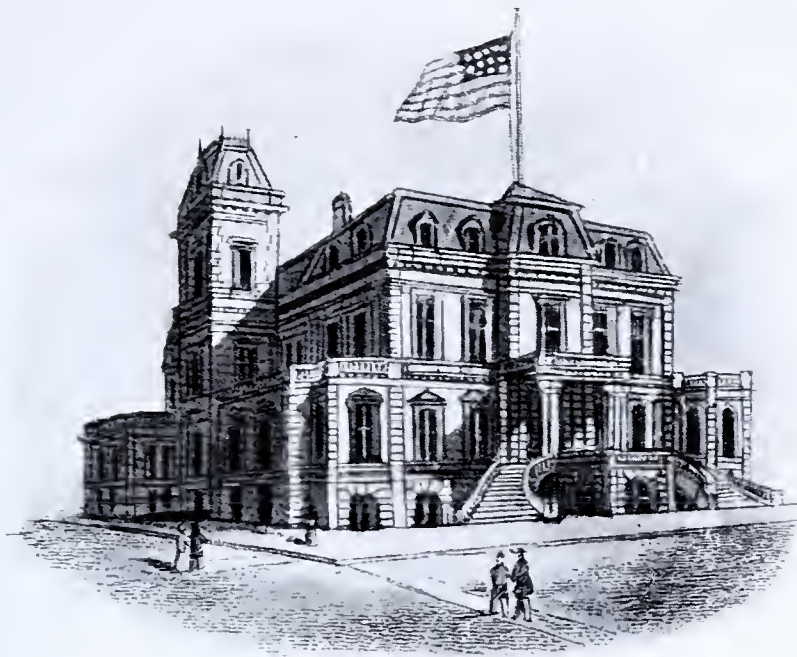
WILLIAM H. LAMBERT

President

Secretary

MAY 11, 1905.





THE UNION LEAGUE HOUSE, MAY 11, 1865

*Reprinted from the
Philadelphia Press, Thursday, May 11, 1865*

The Union League

ITS HISTORY AND ITS OBJECTS—ITS COMMITTEES
AND ITS DOINGS—ITS NEW BUILDING

A PALATIAL ESTABLISHMENT—THE UNION LEAGUE



AMONG the many powerful institutions to which the rebellion gave rise, none, perhaps, has a more extended influence for good than the Union League, of this city. We see it in the autumn of 1862 a mere social company, meeting from house to house, discussing the interesting topics of the day, its members encouraging their hearts and strengthening their arms by words of hope in hours of darkness and despair, disaster and defeat to our cause, inciting in their minds still stronger faith in the final triumph of the great cause of Union and liberty. There were many dark days then—very dark. Scarce a ray of light broke through the universal pall of ruin to cheer the most hopeful heart. Who does not remember the repeated defeats at Bull Run; the disastrous seven days of retreat on the peninsula; the withdrawal of the army there-

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

from, and its subsequent defeat under General Pope; the slaughter at Fredericksburg; the raid into Pennsylvania, and the threatened attack on Philadelphia? Thank God! these times are changed now. He who ruleth not as man rules, led us by a way that we knew not. How often were we disposed to question the justice of Him from whom emanates all justice. The dross and evils consequent upon a long continuance of sin were being cleansed by the severity of fire, and, blessed be God! we are to-day a disenthralled and regenerated republic. The cry of the newsboy, announcing the "defeat of the Union army," which was heard so sorrowfully, has been followed by the joyful tidings of "great victory by General Grant," "capture of Richmond," "surrender of General Lee," and "one hundred thousand dollars reward for Jeff Davis." Throughout all these lights and shadows of rebellion, the Union League has increased in numbers and influence until it now numbers over fifteen hundred members. At the meeting at which it was proposed to organize such an institution, there were but six gentlemen present, to wit: Hon. J. I. Clarke Hare, Benjamin Gerhard, Horace Binney, Jr., Morton McMichael, George H. Boker, and Charles Gibbons. As we have stated, these gentlemen adding continually to their number, continued to meet from house to house until it was believed that a more extended organization of loyal citizens could render still greater service to the government. On the 27th of December, 1862, at a meeting of the Club, held at the residence of Dr. J. Forsyth Meigs, the entertaining member for that evening, the subject of forming such an association was introduced. Mr. Stephen Colwell presided at this meeting. After some discussion of the question, Charles Gibbons, Esq., who had prepared a plan for the organization of the Union League of Philadelphia, submitted it to the gentlemen present, who adopted it with great unanimity. The fundamental articles presented by Mr. Gibbons were brief and to the point. They were as follows:

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

1. "The condition of membership shall be *unqualified loyalty* to the Government of the United States, and *unwavering support of its efforts for the suppression of the rebellion.*"

2. "The primary object of the association shall be, to discountenance and rebuke, by moral and social influences, *all disloyalty to the Federal Government, and to that end the associators will use every proper means in public and private.*"

These articles were signed on the same evening by thirty-eight gentlemen, to wit:

Stephen Colwell, John Ashhurst, Charles Gibbons, F. Fraley, Henry D. Moore, A. J. Antelo, Edwin M. Lewis, William H. Ashhurst, John B. Myers, George Trott, A. J. Lewis, J. G. Fell, Ferdinand J. Dreer, George Whitney, J. I. Clark Hare, Alexander Brown, A. D. Jessup, Horace Binney, Jr., E. Spencer Miller, J. Forsyth Meigs, Fairman Rogers, Charles Gilpin, B. Gerhard, William Henry Rawle, Samuel J. Reeves, James L. Claghorn, James W. Paul, W. M. Tilghman, Henry C. Comly, Morton McMichael, C. H. Clark, Daniel Dougherty, Charles Borie, George H. Boker, B. H. Moore, Joseph B. Townsend, John R. Young, J. Milliken.

The chairman of the meeting was authorized by resolution to appoint the standing committee or board, required by the articles, for the management of the League, which was done, and thus the Union League of Philadelphia was organized on the 27th of December, 1862, commencing its career with thirty-eight members.

A committee was appointed for the purpose of securing a suitable house, and the old Kuhn mansion on Chestnut Street was secured. The League occupied these premises on the 22d day of January, 1863, and from that time forward began to count its membership by hundreds. The premises occupied by the League were purchased, about a year after that time, by M. W. Baldwin, Esq., for a private residence.

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

The procuring a building for the use of the League became imperatively necessary and it was determined to secure a lot of ground and establish a fund for the erection of a building commodious to the League and ornamental to the city. A joint stock association was formed by individual members of the League, who subscribed for bonds at the par value of \$500, the capital stock to amount to \$120,000.

A rectangular lot on the west side of Broad Street, bounded by Sansom and Moravian Streets, was secured, and ground for the erection of this building was broken on the 1st day of March, 1864.

ACT OF INCORPORATION

On the 30th day of March, 1864, the Union League of Philadelphia was incorporated by the Legislature. The charter of incorporation sets out that,

Whereas, An association has been formed in the city of Philadelphia for the purpose of fostering and promoting the love of Republican Government, aiding in the preservation of the union of the United States, and extending aid and relief to the soldiers and sailors of the army and navy thereof; and are desirous of being incorporated, the better to enable them to carry out said purposes; therefore,

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same*, That William M. Meredith, John B. Myers, Horace Binney, Jr., Adolph E. Borie, Morton McMichael, J. I. Clark Hare, Benjamin Gerhard, James L. Claghorn, Charles Gibbons, George H. Boker, William H. Ashhurst, Joseph B. Townsend, George Whitney, John B. Kenney, John A. Brown, Stephen Colwell, Charles Gilpin, J. Gillingham Fell, N. B. Browne, S. C. Perkins, B. H. Brewster, Lindley Smyth, Daniel Dougherty, George Trott, William Sellers, and such other persons as have been, or may

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

hereafter be associated with them, for the purposes of said association, are hereby erected into, and declared to be, a body politic and corporate, by the name, style, and title, of The Union League of Philadelphia, and, by the same style and title, shall have perpetual succession and may purchase, take, and hold, by gift, grant, demise, bargain and sale, devise and bequest, or by any other lawful mode of conveyance, any lands, tenements, goods, chattels, and estate, real, personal, or mixed; and the same, or any part thereof, from time to time, may sell, alien, mortgage, or otherwise dispose of; and may have a common seal, which they may alter and renew at their pleasure, etc.

That the following officers elected by the aforesaid association, at its annual meeting in December, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, shall hold their respective offices under this charter, until the next annual election in December, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four; and that any vacancies occurring therein before the next annual meeting may be filled in the manner provided in their by-laws, to wit: President, William M. Meredith; Vice-Presidents, William H. Ashhurst, John B. Myers, Horace Binney, Jr., Adolph E. Borie; Directors, Morton McMichael, J. I. Clark Hare, Benjamin Gerhard, James L. Claghorn, Charles Gibbons, George H. Boker, Joseph B. Townsend, George Whitney, John B. Kenney.

THE WORK OF THE LEAGUE

The work done by the Union League has been, so far as any organization for political purposes is concerned, beyond parallel. Its influence has been felt in the remotest corners of this State, and none have been more ready to acknowledge its power than those of the opposition party.

In consequence of its formation and the success attending it, similar organizations were formed throughout the loyal States, and in an incredibly short time there was a Union

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

League in every city, town, and village of the whole North. The influence of these associations can be best estimated by the results which they accomplished. Loyal men have been brought together upon a common platform, and the doubting and trembling minds have been made sure and strong by contact with the hopeful and believing. When, in the Gubernatorial contest, in the fall of 1863, the influence of the League was exerted for the Government against Judge Woodward, it was not deemed by the warmest opposers of the League that it was to them that the defeat of Judge Woodward was due. It was admitted on all sides that the position which Pennsylvania at that election should take was of vital importance to the success of our armies in the suppression of the rebellion and the maintenance of the Union. The value of the results accomplished by the League can never be estimated in figures. It is beyond price. It was the entering wedge in the destruction of the rebellion, the eternal cement of our Union, the edict of liberty, throughout the length and breadth of our great country, and the assertion to the whole world that we have a Government.

REMOVAL TO 1216 CHESTNUT STREET

Pending the preparations for building it became necessary to surrender the old Kuhn property to Mr. Baldwin, its purchaser, which was done on the 18th day of August, 1864, and the League removed to the premises yesterday vacated by it, No. 1216 Chestnut Street.

CONCERT HALL

At the same time Concert Hall was leased for the purpose of holding public meetings during the Presidential campaign. These meetings began on the 19th day of September, and closed on the 7th day of November last. All will remember the exciting days and nights which prevailed between those times and the grand meetings which filled Concert Hall

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

nightly, and occasionally National Hall and the Academy of Music. None would probably care to witness such scenes again as were enacted in our city previous to the last election; but through the turmoil, confusion, and strife of those times, the pleasant meetings at Concert Hall, graced by the beauty and intelligence of Philadelphia, will be bright and beautiful in our memories. In spite of all excitements, in spite of strikes amongst workmen, scarcity of material, and the rigor of a long and severe winter, the League House has gone forward steadily and triumphantly, and to-day its members find themselves put in possession of a palace unsurpassed in comfort, elegance, beauty and taste by any house of its kind abroad or in our own land, a monument of the enterprise of liberal and loyal men.

THE NEW BUILDING

As before stated, the building is situated on the rectangular lot on the west side of Broad Street, bounded on the north by Sansom, and on the south by Moravian Street. The lot is one hundred feet in breadth on Broad Street, and two hundred feet deep. A better site for the purpose of the League could not have been selected. Being in a central position, and the highest ground in the city, it commands a view of the surrounding city which is seldom enjoyed. The lot also having three fronts, an excellent opportunity for architectural effect is afforded. The building has been constructed in accordance with the design and under the superintendence of Mr. John Frazer, architect. It belongs to that class of architecture known as the French Renaissance. The façades are of granite, brick, and brownstone. The base course is granite, the rest is brick, with the exception of the steps and main entrance; the angles of the building, of which there are quite a number, the sills, architraves, and pediments of the windows, are all of brownstone. Leading to the main entrance are two flights of broad circular steps of brownstone,

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

which terminate on a broad landing, upon which are four pedestals, surmounted by columns on couplings, which support a cornice and balustrade, forming a balcony for the second story. Between the couplings there is a projection six feet in depth and twelve feet wide, surrounded by a balustrade. This is designed as a rostrum for public speakers. The building is covered by a roof agreeing with the style of architecture known as a Mansard roof. On the south side of the building, about half-way between the front and back, is a tower twelve feet square, and is surmounted by a wrought-iron railing. From this tower a view of the city is obtained which is not excelled. The rear façade, with its balconies, although not so elaborate as the front, is nevertheless very pretty. It looks out upon a spacious garden, in which a fountain is to be placed.

OPENING AND RECEPTION OF VISITORS

Owing to the death of President Lincoln there will be no public demonstration to-day upon the occupation of the house. The house will not be open for lady visitors until next Thursday, owing to the confusion and unsettled conditions of affairs incident upon moving.

The Military Committee

RÉSUMÉ OF THE WORK OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE,
AS REPORTED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS BY MR.
JAMES H. ORNE, CHAIRMAN, DECEMBER 11, 1865

“ It may, perhaps, not be inappropriate here to recapitulate briefly the work performed by the Committee since its organization in June, 1863, at the period of the invasion of Pennsylvania. Between June 25 and July 5, of that year, it raised three full regiments of emergency men, under Colonels Whipple, McLean, and Gray, besides five companies of cavalry. During the succeeding autumn and winter, the Fourth

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

Union League, a three years' regiment, One Hundred and Eighty-third P. V., was raised and put into the field. In July, 1864, pursuant to the call for one hundred days' men, the Fifth Union League Regiment, under Colonel Neff, was organized. Under the call of July 18, 1864, for one year men, the Sixth Union League Regiment, One Hundred and Ninety-eighth P. V., under Colonel Sickles, was raised, consisting of three battalions or fourteen full companies. Under the call of December 18, 1864, as stated above, the Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Union League Regiments were promptly put into service. Under the auspices of your Committee, therefore, not less than ten thousand (10,000) men have thus been recruited during the last two years of the war; to accomplish which has involved an expenditure of over one hundred thousand dollars. The Committee cannot conclude this final account of their labors without acknowledging the cordial co-operation which they have at all times received from the authorities, both State and national, and the inexhaustible liberality of their fellow-citizens, which kept them constantly supplied with the means necessary to the successful discharge of the duties intrusted to them."

J. REESE FRY, *Chairman*.

*JAMES H. ORNE.

SAMUEL M. FELTON.

J. EDGAR THOMSON.

ELLERSLIE WALLACE, M.D.

JAMES L. CLAGHORN.

HORACE BINNEY, JR.

MORTON McMICHAEL.

GEORGE H. CROSMAN.

J. I. CLARK HARE.

WM. D. LEWIS.

GEORGE WHITNEY.

ANDREW WHEELER.

GEORGE TROTT.

NATHANIEL B. BROWNE.

HENRY C. LEA.

C. IZARD MACEUEN.

EZRA DYER, M.D.

CHARLES S. SMITH.

CHARLES GIBBONS.

JOHN E. BREADY.

E. SPENCER MILLER.

LINDLEY SMYTH.

HARMANUS NEFF.

* Upon the death of J. Reese Fry, on July 1, 1865, James H. Orne was elected Chairman.

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

The Board of Publication

RÉSUMÉ OF THE WORK OF THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION, FROM THE CHRONICLE OF THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

“The Union League keenly realized from the first that, while the main battle must be waged with the sword, the grander victory would be shared by the pen. At least, its vigorous use would tend to narrow the field of conflict, it could allay much ignoble passion, and clear the issues before the excited masses. The people were still open to be reasoned with upon the claims of national duty. Responsibility would lie with those who scorned loyal counsel and appeals of sagacious leaders who foresaw the end from the beginning. As early as February 17, 1863, when The Union League was but a few weeks old, its Directors appointed a committee of three, provisionally, to print and distribute useful information. The fund for this missionary work was to be gathered from members of The Union League in their private capacity.

“The distribution of the literary matter of the Board was made from a room in The Union League House by a force of twelve employees, who were kept busy during the first two years of the work. The output was remarkable in many respects. First, as to bulk, in the ten months from the formation of the Board until the end of 1863 there were issued over a million pamphlets in English and some in German. In 1864 the total of publications rose to 1,044,900. In 1865 and 1866, though the war had ended, the respective totals were 56,380 and 867,000. In 1867 the issue was 31,906. The momentous year, 1868, was signalized by the distribution of 1,416,906 publications. Nearly four and a half millions were issued in less than eight years.”

War Department

Washington City

February 6th

1864

George H. Baker Esq

Secretary of the Union League of Philadelphia

Sir

It was with no ordinary pleasure that, on my return from the West, I received the Silver medal and accompanying testimonial of your association, which arrived here during my absence. Their acknowledgment has been delayed in the desire and hope of being able, before now, to express in person my grateful thanks.

In this great contest of a free republican government against slave holding treason and rebellion your League has borne a very distinguished and efficient part; and to the reestablishment of the Union your labors have contributed no small share. In the most perilous hours of the struggle, when unreasonable

hope had given place to unreasonable
despondency in the public mind, your
faith remained unshaken; the patriotic fire
still burned brightly upon your altar,
and the heart of the Nation was quickened
by the unflinching courage of the Union
League of Philadelphia. The arm of the
Government was strengthened by your
support, and domestic traitors quailed
before you.

The War Department has, in an
especial degree, witnessed, and experienced
the good results of your organization;
and it is to me an official duty, no less
than a personal happiness, to express
profound thanks for the respect-
ful confidence and support of the
Union League of Philadelphia.

Your Obedient Servant
Edwin M Stanton

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

The Board consisted of the following gentlemen :

BENJAMIN GERHARD, *Chairman.*

JAMES L. CLAGHORN, *Treasurer.*

M. H. MESSCHERT, *Secretary.*

C. IZARD MACEUEN, *Assistant Secretary.*

WM. H. ASHHURST.

ALEXANDER BROWN.

STEPHEN COLWELL.

GEORGE M. CONARROE.

J. GILLINGHAM FELL.

JOHN W. FIELD.

BENJAMIN P. HUNT.

HENRY LEWIS.

BLOOMFIELD H. MOORE.

NATHANIEL B. BROWNE.

HENRY C. LEA.

JAMES W. PAUL.

GEORGE D. PARRISH.

SAMUEL C. PERKINS.

EVAN RANDOLPH.

W. HENRY RAWLE.

LINDLEY SMYTH.

JOSEPH B. TOWNSEND.

GEORGE TROTT.

WM. M. TILGHMAN.

THOMAS WEBSTER.

ANDREW WHEELER.

ELLIS YARNALL.

DANIEL DOUGHERTY.

J. WALKER JACKSON.

JOHN W. FORNEY.

STEPHEN MORRIS.

SAUNDERS LEWIS.

SAMUEL S. WHITE.

HENRY C. TOWNSEND.

CADWALLADER BIDDLE.

JOHN P. VERREE.

E. C. KNIGHT.

JAMES H. ORNE.

CHARLES GIBBONS.

JOSEPH TRIMBLE.



THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

“ EXECUTIVE MANSION,
“ WASHINGTON, D. C., October 24, 1863.

“ DEAR SIR :

“ It is with heartfelt gratification that I acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 30th of September, and the accompanying letter, by which I am made an Honorary Member of The Union League of Philadelphia.

“ I shall always bear with me the consciousness of having endeavored to do my duty in the trying times through which we are passing; and the generous approval of a portion of my fellow-citizens, so intelligent, and so patriotic as those composing your association, assures me that I have not wholly failed. I could not ask and no one could merit a better reward.

“ Be kind enough, sir, to convey to the gentlemen whom you represent the assurance of the grateful appreciation with which I accept the honor which you have conferred upon me.

“ I am, very sincerely,

“ A. LINCOLN.

“ To George H. Boker, Esq., Secretary, Union League,
Philadelphia.”

REMARKS OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN, AT A RECEPTION
TENDERED TO HIM ON FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 1864, BY THE
UNION LEAGUE, AT 1118 CHESTNUT STREET

“ I thank you, sir, for your kind words of welcome. I am happy at the opportunity of visiting The Union League of Philadelphia, the first, I believe, of the Union Leagues—an organization free from political prejudices and prompted in its formation by motives of the highest patriotism. I have many a time heard of its doing great good, and no one has charged it with doing any wrong. But it is not my intention to make a speech. My object in visiting Philadelphia was exclusively to witness the Sanitary Fair, and I need scarcely

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

say that I have been more than delighted in witnessing the extraordinary efforts of your patriotic men and lovely ladies in behalf of the suffering soldiers and sailors of our country. It will now afford me pleasure to take each of you by the hand."

EXCERPT FROM THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA UPON THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN, APRIL 17, 1865

"Honoring the noble character, the pure principles and the political services of President Lincoln, as The Union League of Philadelphia has always done, we relieve our own hearts, and add their testimony to the tribute of the whole people by adopting the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That we honor the name of Abraham Lincoln, our twice-elected President, and will ever honor it, as that of a most pure and unselfish patriot, and as a wise-hearted and sagacious leader and administrator of the country, which from a beginning that lay in weakness and unpreparedness for the crisis then upon it, with nothing but his firm heart and good purpose under God to rely upon, has been brought by the spirit and power of his Administration to a position of preparation and strength, from which it may now look with confidence over the entire domain of the nation, as soon to be reclaimed to Union, universal Freedom and Concord.

"*Resolved*, That no change in the head of this nation by assassination, nor any other event, will shake The Union League of Philadelphia from the firm purpose for which it was instituted, the devotion of life, honor, and estate to the defence of the Union against all assaults, and to secure its transmission to our posterity, as our fathers transmitted it to us, without one star extinguished or dimmed, or one bar of its stripes effaced."

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT, DECEMBER 11, 1865, UPON
THE DEATH OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN

“We trust that each member of The Union League still carries in his memory a vivid image of the solemn meeting of our Association on the 17th day of April last, and has not permitted the spirit which was then evoked to know change or decay. This is no time to multiply words in referring to the sad event which deprived the country of our wise, our merciful, our great-hearted President; but neither now, nor at any future time, *nor amidst any distracting circumstances should we forget to keep alive the memory of a man whose loss was lamented by his very enemies, and whose fate sent a pang of horror into every corner of the earth to which tidings may travel.* We must not forget the mournful, nightly ward we kept as his august body passed through our silent ranks, to rest, as was proper, a little while in the temple of our national liberty.”

FROM AN ADDRESS BY THE HON. FRANK S. BLACK, FORMER GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK, UPON “THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMY AND NAVY IN THE DAYS WHEN THE UNION LEAGUE WAS FOUNDED—ABRAHAM LINCOLN,” AT THE FOUNDERS’ DAY BANQUET, NOVEMBER 28, 1903

“GENTLEMEN OF THE UNION LEAGUE,—This is a celebration in honor of the Founders of The Union League. The sentiments that are peculiar to this occasion are justly due to the founders of this honored institution, but no commemoration of places, events, or men dedicated to the spirit of liberty would ever be complete without some recognition of that marvellous personality to which you have invited my imperfect consideration. There are subjects upon which nothing new can be said, but which still arouse the fervor awakened at their first enunciation. If the song was true when it started

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on its journey, it will be sung as long as human hearts vibrate and tongues retain the gift of speech. It will be lisped by those who are tottering on toward the end, and echoed by those whose hearts are filled with the promise and glow of youth. If the product was genuine when it passed from the Creator's hand, it will neither be dimmed by age nor cheapened by familiarity; for honor is not decreased by contact, and truth is never out of tune.

“ Give me the hut that is small enough, the poverty that is deep enough, the love that is great enough, and over all the fear of God, and I will raise from them the best there is in human character. This lad, uncouth and poor, without aid or accidental circumstance, rising as steadily as the sun, marked a path across the sky so luminous and clear that there is not one to mate it to be discovered in the heavens, and throughout its whole majestic length there is no spot or blemish in it.

“ The love of justice and fair play, and that respect for order and the law, which must underlie every nation that would long endure, were deeply embedded in his nature.

“ His greatness did not depend upon his title, for greatness was his when the title was bestowed. He leaned upon no fiction of nobility and kissed no hand to obtain his rank, but the stamp of nobility and power which he wore was conferred upon him in that log hut in Kentucky, that day in 1809 when he and Nancy Hanks were first seen there together; and it was conferred by a power which, unlike earthly potentates, never confers a title without a character that will adorn it. When we understand the tremendous advantages of an humble birth, when we realize that the privations of youth are the pillars of strength to maturer years, then we shall cease to wonder that out of such obscure surroundings as watched the coming of Abraham Lincoln should spring the colossal and supreme figure of modern history. Groves are better than temples, fields are better than gorgeous car-

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

petings, rail fences are better than lines of kneeling slaves, and the winds are better than music, if you are raising heroes and founding governments. Those who understand these things and have felt the heart of nature beat will not wonder that this man could stand the shock and fury of war and still maintain that calm serenity which enabled him to hear, above the roar of the storm that enveloped him, the low, smothered cry that demanded the freedom of a race.

“He was not small in anything. He was carved in deep lines, like all heroic figures, for dangerous altitudes and great purposes. And as we move away from him, and years and events pass between us, his form will still be visible and distinct; for such characters, built upon courage and faith, and that loyalty which is the seed of both, are not the playthings, but the masters of time. How long the names of men will last no human foresight can discover, but I believe that even against the havoc and confusion in which so many names go down, the fame of Lincoln will stand as immovable and as long as the pyramids against the rustle of the Egyptian winds.”



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FROM AN ADDRESS BY THE HON. JOHN HAY, SECRETARY
OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES, UPON "FIFTY
YEARS OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY," AT JACKSON,
MICHIGAN, JULY 6, 1904

"If there is one thing more than another in which we Republicans are entitled to a legitimate pride, it is that Lincoln was our first President; that we believed in him, loyally supported him while he lived, and that we have never lost the right to call ourselves his followers. There is not a principle avowed by the Republican party to-day which is out of harmony with his teachings or inconsistent with his character. We do not object to our opponents quoting him, praising him—even claiming him as their own. If it is not sincere, it is still a laudable tribute to acknowledged excellence. If it is genuine, it is still better, for even a Nebraska Populist who reads his Lincoln is in the way of salvation. But only those who believe in human rights and are willing to make sacrifices to defend them; who believe in the nation and its beneficent power; who believe in the American system of protection championed by a long line of our greatest and best, running back from McKinley to Washington, and, as Senator Dolliver so truthfully said, 'to the original sources of American common sense;' only those who believe in equal justice to labor and to capital; in honest money and the right to earn it, have any title to name themselves by the name of Lincoln, or to claim a moral kinship with that august and venerated spirit. I admit it would be little less than sacrilege to try to trade upon that benignant Renown, whose light 'folds in this orb o' the earth.' But we who have always tried to walk in the road he pointed out cannot be deprived of the tender pride of calling ourselves his disciples, and of doing in his name the work allotted to us by Providence."



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FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT, DECEMBER 14, 1868, UPON THE VISIT OF GENERAL GRANT

“ The late visit of the President-Elect to The League House was intentionally of so private a character, and his reception of our members was so strictly confined to our own body, that a public mention of the occasion may seem to be a step beyond rigid propriety. That event is, however, too marked a one in the annals of the League to be passed over in silence. It may be enough to say that General Grant was pleased with his visit, and that he cheerfully acquiesced in every movement which was made in his behalf, that he again and again acknowledged the services which the League had done him, and that when he parted from us it was as the parting of old and well-tried friends.

“ Ours was the first public body that nominated General Grant for the office to which he has been elected. We adhered to him with fidelity when the claims of other candidates of worth were pressed upon our consideration. We sustained his canvas with unabated zeal, and with all the force of our various resources, until his complete victory was assured.”

FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, DECEMBER 11, 1871

“ We are too solicitous about the existence of our association, with its noble national history and its present beneficent influence, willingly to permit the introduction among us of a single element that may threaten our destruction; and we trust that these views may meet with the approval of a majority of our members. Whenever there may arise a question that shall concern the nation at large, one that shall bring us into the harmony in which we moved throughout the Rebellion,—such as the threat of a foreign foe, the adoption of a general public policy, or the election of a chief magistrate of the country,—we may safely predict that the

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League will once more resume its activity, once more set up its standard in airs that have rung with its unforgotten victories, once more marshal and lead forth its moral and material forces, once more confront the open or the insidious hostility of our opponents, once more be found, where it ever has been and ever should be found, doing battle for right—prolonged, laborious battle—with the sacred weapons of obvious truth and of simple honesty.”

FROM AN ADDRESS BY THE HON. MORTON McMICHAEL,
FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNION LEAGUE, AT A
BANQUET TENDERED TO THE HON. GEORGE H. BOKER
UPON HIS APPOINTMENT AS MINISTER OF THE UNITED
STATES TO TURKEY, DECEMBER 22, 1871

“Almost a decade has passed since our organization was founded. Those were dark days when it was brought into being, and darker days followed. Nor was the task it set itself to accomplish a light one. At a time when the pillars of our political fabric were shaken by violent assaults, in a community where the reputed leaders of society were hostile, it had to purify an unwholesome social atmosphere; and, among a people, many of whom were bound by ties of kinship and intercourse to the militant apostles of a false creed and their misguided followers, it had to sever those attachments and replace them with bands of national obligation. It had, moreover, to overleap the barriers of ancient prejudice; to carry the torch of truth into the dim recesses of error, and thus dispel long-cherished illusions; to reinvigorate principles enfeebled by neglect, and restore practices forgotten through disuse; to encourage the timid and fortify the bold; to bring together those who had been widely separated, and to blend into concord antagonistic elements; and, by help of instrumentalities like these, to produce a compact solid mass of patriotic opinion, which, when developed into

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

action, should prove, as it did prove, supreme and irresistible. That The Union League, within its sphere, achieved this result no one disputes—that it was able to achieve it is, in a large measure, due to those who, combining at the outset, clung each to the others through all subsequent vicissitudes, never losing faith, never relaxing effort, never counting the cost, never pausing to think of personal consequences, but keeping steadfastly and unfalteringly on until the good work they had commenced was successfully completed.”

FROM AN ADDRESS BY HON. HENRY M. HOYT, AT A RECEPTION TENDERED TO HIM BY THE UNION LEAGUE, APRIL 15, 1879, AFTER HIS INAUGURATION AS GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA

“Let me implore you to maintain your organization with its original design unchanged. The noblest things are prone to degenerate. You will be exposed to the peril of the change from the rigorous, stern, martial, war-making body of The Union League of Philadelphia, into the pleasure-loving body of a social club. Nothing would impart to the enemies of the Federal Union so much pleasure as such a departure from the spirit and aim of your organization.”

FROM AN ADDRESS BY MAJOR EDWIN N. BENSON, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNION LEAGUE, AT THE CELEBRATION OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS ORGANIZATION, DECEMBER 27, 1887

“I congratulate you then, gentlemen, on the grand patriotic inception, the most honorable continuance, and the present successful condition of your organization, on the celebration of this important anniversary. And in looking forward to its repetition in the lapse of another quarter of a century, you must face now, and until then, an inevitable fact.

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“ The honored names of gentlemen who were conspicuous in the management and direction of the affairs of The Union League during its earlier years, with but few exceptions (and one of them, I am most happy to say, is Mr. Boker), are now but honored memories. So it must ever continue to be in the future; and younger men must fill the places and perform the duties of those now honored by you, as time shall force their retirement from the scene of action, and demand that others shall replace them.

“ *We*, then, who have tried to do our duty, may be pardoned if we urge upon you and our successors to stand by the old principles which have made The Union League what it is to-day.

“ In the extreme delicacy of modern sensitiveness, it is considered in some quarters bad taste to refer to the old flag and the war for the Union; but *we* of The Union League, in our attitude towards them both, are so indissolubly bound up with them in our history, our name, and our very existence, that I cannot allow this occasion to pass without pressing upon those who may hereafter direct the affairs of this organization the importance of remembering that as our corner-stone was loyalty, so, for all time, may the superstructure rest upon it, as upon a sure foundation, and that it may be said of us, as of the wise man, ‘And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.’ ”



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FROM AN ADDRESS BY HON. GEORGE H. BOKER, FORMER
PRESIDENT OF THE UNION LEAGUE, AT THE CELE-
BRATION OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF
ITS ORGANIZATION, DECEMBER 27, 1887

“I see before me some of the old guard, some of the original members of the League, some of the men who stood true to their colors when it was not impossible that those colors might soon be dyed with their hearts' blood. They are few in number now, but they are a Spartan band. I wish to see them arming as of old for a contest, not so sanguinary, but nearly as important as that which they won a quarter of a century ago; and I wish them to take me once more into their veteran ranks, and to equip me with the arms that I once used in their service. We old fellows have often got together in corners to lament over the degeneracy of the League; over the small issues that engage it; over the vast clamor and the painful enthusiasm evoked by a local election,—a thing in which the founders of this institution never thought of entering save as private citizens, free to use the right of personal judgment. Away with all these trifles! A cause is arising worthy of your exertions. I call on old and young to remember your history, and to prove yourselves worthy of it. The cause is not that of a few men; it is the cause of American labor, whether represented by the capitalist, who risks his all on the venture, or by the right arm of the mechanic, whose skill and industry gives him a fair and living share of the profits. In this country the system of protection has been tried through long years, and it means prosperity. The system of free trade has also been tried, and it means ruin.”



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FROM AN ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT McKINLEY, AT THE
FOUNDERS' DAY BANQUET, NOVEMBER 24, 1900

“ I shall do little more than make acknowledgment to this patriotic association for its unceasing loyalty to the government of the United States from Founders' Day until now, and for the earnest support it has given to the present Administration in the trying years through which it has passed.”

FROM AN ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, AT THE
FOUNDERS' DAY BANQUET, JANUARY 30, 1905

“ Four years ago I came here as your guest, when I was Vice-President-elect, to the dinner that you gave to President McKinley. After I succeeded him, through the cause of the dreadful tragedy at Buffalo, and became President, I was again your guest; and now, Mr. Stotesbury, I have inflicted myself upon you again, because—and I am afraid you deserve it—The Union League of Philadelphia has a claim, such as no other organization can have, upon each and every Republican President of the United States; for this was the parent Club of those organizations which were founded in the dark days of the Civil War to uphold the hands of Abraham Lincoln in the Cabinet and of Ulysses S. Grant in the field. So that I wanted to come to The Union League of Philadelphia, and I wanted to come to Pennsylvania. I have a right to feel mighty grateful, for at the last election Pennsylvania, which has established a record in many different ways, established a new record of a half-million plurality for the Republican party, and incidentally I benefited by it. This club was founded to uphold the hands of Abraham Lincoln when he stood as the great leader in the struggle for Union and Liberty. We have a right, therefore, to appeal to this Club for aid in every governmental or social effort made along the lines marked out by Lincoln.”

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FROM AN ADDRESS BY HON. CHARLES EMORY SMITH, AT
THE FOUNDERS' DAY BANQUET, JANUARY 30, 1905

“The Union League crystallized patriotism in the great struggle for the life of the Republic. It was the bulwark of defence against the surging tide of sedition and disunion. To-day our organization is distinguished, powerful, and commanding. It stands on the heights of success, surrounded by a resistless sentiment of national devotion, of which it is the acknowledged leader, and under a flag which proudly floats as the emblem of a people who have taken their place among the foremost nations of the world.

“The mission of the League is public and patriotic. It is not chiefly social, though the social arts here are gracefully cultivated. It is not chiefly club life, though here is one of the greatest clubs in the world. Its mission is public and patriotic, written in the history of forty-two years of noble career, written in yonder banner of The Union League, which was first carried in the streets of Philadelphia at the second election of Abraham Lincoln, and which through the succeeding years has stood, like the cross of Constantine, as the sign by which we conquer. It is written in the historic figures of war and of peace, of progress and of statesmanship, which look down from these emblazoned walls to-night as the leaders of our thought and the evangelists of our faith. The Union League was born amid the throes of a struggle for the very life of the nation. It rejoices to-night in a nation which stands on the summit of its power and its glory.”





BANNER CARRIED IN
A PROCESSION TO CELE-
BRATE THE RE-ELECTION
OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN



REVERSE OF BANNER
CARRIED IN A PRO-
CESSION TO CELEBRATE
THE RE-ELECTION OF
PRESIDENT LINCOLN

THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

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1865

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Vice-Presidents

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HORACE BINNEY, JR.

ADOLPH E. BORIE

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Directors

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THE UNION LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

Surviving Members of the Union League of May 11, 1865

JOHN SELLERS, JR.	{ Jan. 8, 1863.
	{ Jan. 17, 1882.
ELLIS YARNALL	Jan. 9, 1863.
ABRAHAM BARKER	Jan. 10, 1863.
W. ROTCH WISTER	Jan. 18, 1863.
EDWARD SMITH KELLY	Jan. 20, 1863.
SETH B. STITT	Jan. 20, 1863.
WILLIAM S. GRANT	Jan. 22, 1863.
RICHARD WOOD	Jan. 27, 1863.
CHARLES HARTSHORNE	Jan. 30, 1863.
CHARLES SMITH	Feb. 5, 1863.
THOMAS L. GILLESPIE	Feb. 14, 1863.
HENRY G. MORRIS	Feb. 14, 1863.
H. W. GRAY	Feb. 16, 1863.
EDWARD C. MARKLEY	Feb. 26, 1863.
WILLIAM G. THOMAS	Feb. 27, 1863.
RICHARD H. DOWNING	Feb. 28, 1863.
ALEXANDER K. MCCLURE	March 3, 1863.
EDWARD SITER	March 3, 1863.
JAMES V. WATSON	March 3, 1863.
GEORGE RICE	{ March 16, 1863.
	{ Oct. 29, 1888.
EDWARD S. BUCKLEY	March 16, 1863.
J. EDWARD ADDICKS	March 19, 1863.
JOSEPH B. ALTEMUS	{ March 20, 1863.
	{ Jan. 14, 1879.
BENJAMIN H. BROWN	March 21, 1863.
ALEXANDER M. FOX, SR.	March 30, 1863.
H. F. KENNEY	{ April 9, 1863.
	{ April 16, 1883.
JOHN F. GRAFF	April 20, 1863.

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THOMAS DOLAN	{	April	25, 1863.
	{	April	16, 1879.
GEORGE WATSON		April	27, 1863.
P. S. P. CONNOR		May	8, 1863.
S. EMLÉN MEIGS		May	14, 1863.
EDWIN N. BENSON		May	31, 1863.
CHARLES H. CRAMP		May	31, 1863.
FRANK H. WYETH		July	10, 1863.
J. VAUGHAN MERRICK	{	July	22, 1863.
	{	May	20, 1878.
J. BENTON YOUNG		Sept.	15, 1863.
RICHARD L. ASHHURST		Oct.	22, 1863.
WAYNE MACVEAGH		Oct.	22, 1863.
JOHN G. WATMOUGH	{	Jan.	27, 1864.
	{	June	14, 1881.
JAMES B. CHANDLER	{	Feb.	8, 1864.
	{	Feb.	15, 1883.
WILLIAM M. CRAMP		Feb.	20, 1864.
WILLIAM M. FARR		March	5, 1864.
WILLIAM H. ARMSTRONG	{	March	9, 1864.
	{	March	3, 1888.
JOHN T. BAILEY		March	9, 1864.
C. C. KNIGHT	{	July	9, 1864.
	{	Nov.	9, 1880.
WASHINGTON H. GILPIN		Oct.	15, 1864.
J. ELDON SALTER		Oct.	17, 1864.
HENRY CLAY BUTCHER		Jan.	7, 1865.
RICHARD A. LEWIS		Jan.	26, 1865.
EDGAR W. EARLE		Jan.	30, 1865.
SAMUEL BELL		Feb.	22, 1865.
JACOB M. DUNCAN	{	Feb.	22, 1865.
	{	Jan.	21, 1889.
A. CUTHBERT THOMAS		April	13, 1865.
BEAUVEAU BORIE	{	April	14, 1865.
	{	April	15, 1885.

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THOMAS S. HARRISON	April	21, 1865.
EDWARD T. DOBBINS	April	26, 1865.
WILLIAM F. BIDDLE	April	28, 1865.
JACOB N. DONALDSON	May	2, 1865.
WILLIAM P. BROCK	May	2, 1865.
ALBERT GRAFF	{	May 3, 1865.
		Dec. 20, 1879.
JAMES T. GRAFF	May	5, 1865.
GEORGE BURNHAM	May	11, 1865.
RODMAN B. ELLISON	May	11, 1865.
WILLIAM P. ELLISON	May	11, 1865.
ELLICOTT FISHER	May	11, 1865.



F O R T I E T H
A N N I V E R S A R Y
of the O P E N I N G *of the*
P R E S E N T U N I O N
L E A G U E H O U S E
M A Y E L E V E N T H , N I N E T E E N
H U N D R E D A N D F I V E



Flensburg
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